

44. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein the participant level further comprises contact information.

45. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein the participant level further comprises additional sections for claimants.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the additional sections are shown to display, events, injury and disability management.

47. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein the line level includes information related to details and damaged vehicle for automobile claims.

48. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein the line level further comprises information related to damaged property for property claims.

49. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein the line level further comprises information related to damaged yacht for marine claims.

50. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein the line level further comprises information related to events, damages and negotiation.

51. (New) The method of Claim 36, further comprising a task library administrator interface for adding or editing the rules and tasks in the task library.

## REMARKS

The remaining issues regarding this application are as follows:

- The Examiner rejected Claims 7, 14 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph as being indefinite;
- The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7 and 15-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Todd et al. in Microsoft Exchange Server 5.5 Unleashed, 1998; and

- The Examiner rejected Claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Todd et al. in Microsoft Exchange Server 5.5 Unleashed, 1998.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejections in light of the new claims and the following remarks

### **35 U.S.C. § 112**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7, 14 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have canceled these claims. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw his rejection to these claims.

### **35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7 and 15-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Todd et al. in Microsoft Exchange Server 5.5 Unleashed, 1998. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection in light of the new claims. Applicants have added new Claims 22-51. The specification supports these new claims (see page 137, lines 29-35, page 141, lines 15-26, page 179, lines 8-19, page 181, lines 11-30, page 182, lines 20-27, page 183, lines 17-26, 184, lines 1-30 and page 185, lines 9-27). No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims are not described or suggested by Todd et al.

New Claim 22 recites, “wherein the event processor is triggered by application events associated with a change in the information, and sends an event trigger to the task engine; wherein in response to the event trigger, the task engine identifies rules in the task library database associated with the event and applies the information to the identified rules to determine the tasks to be completed, and populates on a task

assistant the determined tasks to be completed, wherein the task assistant transmits the determined tasks to the client component.”

New Claim 31 recites, “monitoring a transaction database containing information relating to an insurance transaction; in response to certain changes in the information, identifying an event associated with the change; in response to the identified event, retrieving rules stored in a rules database, said retrieved rules being associated with said identified event; determining a task to be completed based on said retrieved rules and on the information; assigning said task to an employee or group of employees for completion.”

New Claim 36 recites, “determining characteristics of the information related to the insurance transaction; applying the characteristics of the information related to the insurance transaction to rules to determine a task to be completed; transmitting the determined task to a task assistant, wherein the task assistant displays the determined task; allowing an authorized user to edit and perform the determined task and to update the information related to the insurance transaction in accordance with the determined task.”

Todd et al. discloses that the Microsoft Exchange Server is, at its core, an engine that lets people communicate and share information. E-mail is one of the primary means of electronic communication today, and Exchange Server is perhaps best known as a solid high-performance client/server e-mail system. (Page 4, lines 1-8). Todd et al. also discloses the Exchange Server includes both a server and a suite of clients that connects to it. (Page 5, lines 1-5).

Todd, however, does not anticipate, disclose or suggest the utilization of an event processor triggered by application events associated with a change in the information, and sends an event trigger to the task engine; wherein in response to the event trigger, the task engine identifies rules in the task library database associated with the event and applies the information to the identified rules to determine the tasks to be completed, and populates on a task assistant the determined tasks to be completed, wherein the task assistant transmits the determined tasks to the client

component. The arguments made for Claim 22 also apply to Claims 31 and 36, so arguments have not been made for Claims 31 and 36.

In fact, Todd et al., teaches away from utilizing the event processor triggered by application events associated with a change in the information, and sends an event trigger to the task engine; wherein in response to the event trigger, the task engine identifies rules in the task library database associated with the event and applies the information to the identified rules to determine the tasks to be completed, and populates on a task assistant the determined tasks to be completed.

First, Todd et al. teaches away from the present invention, because Todd et al. utilizes a work flow based on a flow template, where the workflows are made up of steps in a business process. The steps can be simply delivering a message and having someone approve and forward the message. The steps can also be combined to circulate information, distribute attachments, gather responses, and assign specific tasks. (Page 911, lines 9-18). In addition, Todd discloses the utilization of Folder Assistant rules that includes a rules engine that can process mail put in the folder. Folder Assistant rules are limited to Delete, Reply and Forward. (Page 667, lines 27-28 and page 668, lines 1-5).

Todd et al. is not able to apply the Folder Assistant rules to enable specific tasks to be completed based on information received by Microsoft Exchange Server. Todd is able to process mail received in the system based on the Folder Assistant rules, but it does not drive the processing of the information or claim processing. Todd also does not disclose enabling a user to input information into an application, where the information is applied to rules to determine a task to complete and then the application performs and/or edits the tasks. Thus, Todd et al. does not disclose the elements of Claims 22-51, so Todd et al. does not anticipate these claims.

For the foregoing reasons, the new Claims 22-51 are not anticipated by Todd et al. Claims 23-29, 32-35 and 37-51 depend from independent Claims 22, 31 and 36. Therefore, Claims 23-29, 32-35 and 37-51 also are not anticipated by Todd et al. as claims dependent upon allowable base claims.

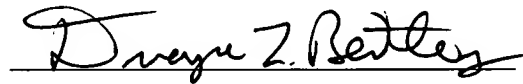
**35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

The Examiner also rejected Claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Todd et al. Applicants respectfully submit, as stated above, that the cited reference do not describe or suggest the new Claims 22-51. Since the Applicants have canceled Claims 8-14, Applicants request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

**SUMMARY**

New Claims 22-51 are patentable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner grant early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Dwayne L. Bentley  
Registration No. 45, 947  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
(312) 321-4200



00757

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE